

6/17/68

Dear Helen,

You sent me two copies of the first page of OD 86, one of which I return. I have the feeling of having read that file perhaps two years ago, and again I realize how much I can no longer remember. Generally, I think it now best for you to check with Paul before you buy documents. The groups out there is active and brilliant. I am no longer working in this part of the files, indeed, in any of them on a systematic basis for months, for there is other work that to me and now is of higher priority, work that I can do and others cannot or will not--in any event, do not.

The extent and organization of my files (or you might think, in looking at them disorganization, makes it impossible for me to go over them and send you such first pages. I have all the available indexes, as Hoch now does. He is doing something with them. Again, ask him, for it would take me at least a day, to merely copy them. Perhaps he has some in form in which he can provide copies. I do not know whether he has to do his own Xeroxing, but it costs him only 10¢ a page, half of Archives charge.

Thornley may have pretended to you that he had never seen the 26 volumes, but I think it unlikely, for his friend and present defender Dave Lifton has them. For the future, could you write me a separate memo on your offer to him and how little interest he had, whether or not he said he had seen them before, what, if anything, he seemed interested in? He has been writing as though he knew what he was talking about. I began with the feeling with which you end that paragraph, and I looked up his "agent" to send him that message. I have changed my opinion. He is a not nice man, a bad one, with intentions as unpleasant as what in another would be called "beliefs". Steffen was right. He should have been unhappy about what he (with Lifton's help, tried to do to Heindell. The polite word is "frame". If you have time to give me the citation, I'd appreciate any indication that Jenner may have felt Thornley had CIA connections. I do not consider it unlikely or impossible. He served that end alone, regardless of intent.

I know about the sick and sickening Capote. I was spared the agony by out habits, which almost eliminate TV save for the news and a scare getting scarcer number of "cultural" programs. There were not three assassinations alone--the others are forgotten. I agree they all have the same end in mind. I've said so from the first, even predicted Bobby's in a January letter to a friend of his.

Gotta run. Excuse typos;

Sincerely,